

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 3-12 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 and 10-12 have been amended. Support for the amended claims can be located at page 23, lines 12-26 of the specification.

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,984,178 (Gill) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,341 (Vijayan). In particular, the Examiner asserted that Vijayan discloses, "adding an alerting instruction to the action that should be performed."

Vijayan is directed to a method of monitoring faults in a computer network. Upon receiving a set of an event, a host, and an FMP, the fault management system 430 checks the validity of the items by consulting a database. If the event or host is not defined in the database, then the process is stopped. If the event and host are defined, correlation is performed.

The Examiner references a description at column 5, lines 14-37 in the specification of Vijayan that discloses sending an alert if the cooloff timeout is expired and the status of the event is still open. Nowhere in the specification, however, does Vijayan teach or suggest checking if there is inconsistency in an event order and adding an alerting instruction to action that should be performed when the inconsistency is detected in the event order, as recited in currently amended claim 1, as amended.

As Gill does not cure the deficiency, the combination of references does not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 10-12 are patentable over Gill in view of Vijayan, as neither Gill nor Vijayan, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the above-identified feature. As dependent claims 3-9 depend from independent claim 1, the dependent claims are patentable over the references for at least the reasons presented above for independent claim 1.

If there are any formal matters remaining after the response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to the matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of the Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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